

## Q&A on the Floods Response Plan

August 2010

### **What the Pakistan Initial Floods Emergency Response Plan (PIFERP)?**

The PIFERP was launched on 11 August 2010 as a tool for structuring a coordinated humanitarian response for the first three months of the Pakistan floods emergency. It contains an analysis of the context and humanitarian needs, response plans (at the general strategic level as well as cluster response plans with specific proposed projects), and information on how the response will be coordinated. The initial response plan focuses on the relief responses of seven clusters, presenting an initial funding requirement of US \$459 million. It presents donors with projects from 29 NGOs, nine UN agencies and the International Organisation for Migration.

### **What happens next with the revision of the PIFERP?**

The PIFERP was launched to present an immediate picture of humanitarian needs and proposed response. Now that we have a slightly clearer picture of the needs of flood-affected communities, it will be necessary to revise the initial PIFERP to present a coordinated strategy for responding to the next six months of relief needs as well as twelve months of early recovery needs. The revised response plan will include all clusters. Exact funding requirements will not be known until the project development phase has been completed.

### **What is the duration of the revised Floods Response Plan?**

The Floods Response Plan will run for twelve months, starting from its publication date in mid-September. The maximum timeline for projects focusing on relief activities will be six months, while the maximum timeline for project focusing on early recovery will be twelve months.

### **How does my organisation benefit by participating in the revision of the PIFERP?**

The Response Plan aims to present donors with a comprehensive overview of relief and early recovery needs and responses carried out by all clusters. As such, it invites all cluster members to actively participate in the formulation of response strategies and projects. Participating in the PIFERP revision is a way of demonstrating to donors that you have made an effort to coordinate with other actors working in the same sector – and some donors prefer to fund projects that are part of a common Response Plan.

### **Will I receive funding if my project appears in the Floods Response Plan?**

Submitting a project to the Response Plan allows you to highlight your funding requirements to the donors who receive the document and use it to inform their funding strategy. However, the Response Plan is not a funding tool and does not draw on a central pot of money. This means that your project submission is not the same as a funding proposal – instead, it is an opportunity for you to share your information on your activities and funding requirements with donors. It is still up to each appealing UN agency or NGO to raise funds for their own projects from bilateral donors or from multilateral funding sources (such as the Pakistan Emergency Response Fund, see [www.pakresponse.info](http://www.pakresponse.info)).

### **What is the difference between the Floods Response Plan and the OCHA-administered Pakistan Emergency Response Fund? Are they linked?**

The Floods Response Plan (which is led by the Humanitarian Coordinator with the support of OCHA) is a tool for structuring a coordinated humanitarian response to the floods in Pakistan. It does not have any central pot of funding to draw upon and it is not a funding tool that directly disburses grants.

The Pakistan Emergency Response Fund (which is managed by the Humanitarian Coordinator, and administered by OCHA) is a funding tool, which allows donors to contribute money to a centralised pot, which the Humanitarian Coordinator can transfer to organisations that have submitted project proposals. The Humanitarian Coordinator ultimately decides who should receive funds, based on the advice of a inter-agency Review Board, the relevant cluster, and the OCHA ERF team and the overall guidance of a high-level Advisory Board. The two mechanisms are indirectly linked to each other in the sense that ERF funds may in some cases be specifically awarded to agencies who submit projects in line with agreed cluster response plans and strategies.

### **Who does what for the revision of the Response Plan?**

- **The Humanitarian Coordinator, with support from OCHA**, is responsible for the overall production, content and quality of the document. The HC consults with the Humanitarian Country Team and the Government of Pakistan to set clear parameters for the scope and size of the appeal.
- **Cluster coordinators** bring together all organisations working in their respective sectors of responsibility to jointly develop cluster response plans and agree on specific projects that should be included in the document.
- **Cluster members** actively contribute to the development of cluster response plans and put forward project proposals for inclusion in the document.

### **How do I participate?**

The best way of participating in the revision of the Floods Response Plan is through the clusters. Cluster coordinators will be sharing information with cluster members regarding specific deadlines for project submissions, and dates/times of meetings where the cluster's common response plan and project prioritisation processes are discussed.

### **What is the Online Project System?**

The Online Project System (OPS) has been developed by OCHA to enable agencies to submit their project descriptions and funding needs online. Cluster members (UN agencies as well as NGOs) can request a login to the OPS website at <http://ops.unocha.org> to upload projects for consideration by the cluster. However, please make sure that you keep your cluster coordinator informed of your response plans and any uploaded projects – only projects that have been approved by the cluster coordinator (determined through consultation with cluster members on the basis of agreed criteria) will be included in the response plan.

### **How does the floods response relate to the Pakistan Humanitarian Response Plan (PHRP)?**

The Pakistan Humanitarian Response Plan (PHRP) presents a common response strategy for addressing the needs of one million internally displaced people and more than two million returnees and stayees in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Federally Administered Tribal Area. The PHRP requests \$661 million for the twelve-month period (January – December 2010), but has only received around 40% of this amount to date. In order to ensure that donors do not forget about the ongoing needs of conflict-induced displacement, OCHA is currently working together with all clusters to produce a "Prioritisation Statement" for the PHRP to highlight which PHRP projects still require funds outside of the Floods Response Plan to address ongoing needs of IDPs, returnees and stayees. The Prioritisation Statement will also clarify how humanitarian agencies will avoid duplication by clarifying which populations will receive assistance through the PHRP, and which populations will receive assistance through the Floods Response Plan.

### **How much money are donors contributing to the Pakistan floods response and the PHRP?**

The Financial Tracking Service (FTS) is a global, real-time database which records all reported international humanitarian aid (including that for NGOs and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, bilateral aid, in-kind aid, and private donations). FTS is managed by OCHA in Geneva. Information on the funding of the PIFERP and the PHRP can be accessed at <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/fts.nsf/doc105?OpenForm&rc=3&cc=pak>.